



NEWS

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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INTERNATIONAL BUREAU'S STRATEGIC ANALYSIS AND NEGOTIATIONS DIVISION COMPLETES REALIGNMENT

Washington, D.C. - The International Bureau's Strategic Analysis and Negotiations Division has completed the realignment of its Regional and Industry Analysis and International Telecommunication and Development Branches. The changes are designed to better accommodate the shifting of responsibility for collection and analysis of the Commission's international telecommunications traffic and revenue reports (47 C.F.R. §43.61). The Bureau's industry analysis team will also relocate as part of the realignment. As a result of the changes the International Telecommunications and Development Branch will become the Multilateral Negotiations and Industry Analysis (MNIA) Branch and the Regional and Industry Analysis Branch will become the Regional and Bilateral Affairs (RBA) Branch.

The new MNIA Branch will retain its core functions and add to its portfolio two new functions: (1) the industry analysis functions that were previously performed within the Regional & Industry Analysis Branch, now the Regional & Bilateral Affairs Branch; and (2) the functions associated with Section 43.61 International Telecommunications Traffic Reports, previously performed within the Wireline Competition Bureau. The functions associated with these Reports have been the responsibility of the Wireline Competition Bureau. These changes are intended to enhance the ability of the Branch to participate in matters involving the issues raised in multilateral institutions, including the International Telecommunications Union's Standardization and Development Sectors and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Chris Murphy will serve as Chief of the MNIA Branch.

The new RBA Branch will retain three major core functions: 1) coordinate bilateral discussions with foreign administrations on telecommunications, Internet, and broadcasting matters; 2) further liberalization and competition as policy objectives in foreign markets to the benefit of U.S. consumers; and 3) advise and inform domestic Bureaus and Offices of innovative and progressive policy developments in other countries. In addition, the RBA Branch will be adding Middle Eastern regional expertise to reflect the increasing emphasis on emerging regulators in the Middle East along with new staff to reflect this new priority. These changes will provide more focused resources on international regulators' growing demand for access to the FCC's regulatory expertise. Patricia Cooper will serve as Chief of the RBA Branch.

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